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3. MOSCOW CENTRALIZING DIRECTION OF ECONOMIC "AID" ACTIVITIES

## Comment on:

25X1D NSA

25X1D NSA the Kremlin has centralized direction of its economic aid operations in underdeveloped free world coun-

tries under the Chief Directorate for Economic Relations.

This chief directorate has recently been transferred from the Ministry of Foreign Trade to a semi-autonomous status directly subordinate to the Council of Ministers. The transfer reflects the importance attached by Moscow to its economic activities abroad, since it is Soviet practice to bring important operations directly under the control of the Council of Ministers. (Prepared by ORR)

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